

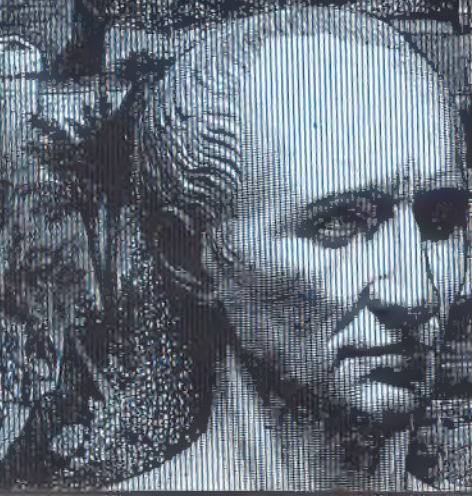
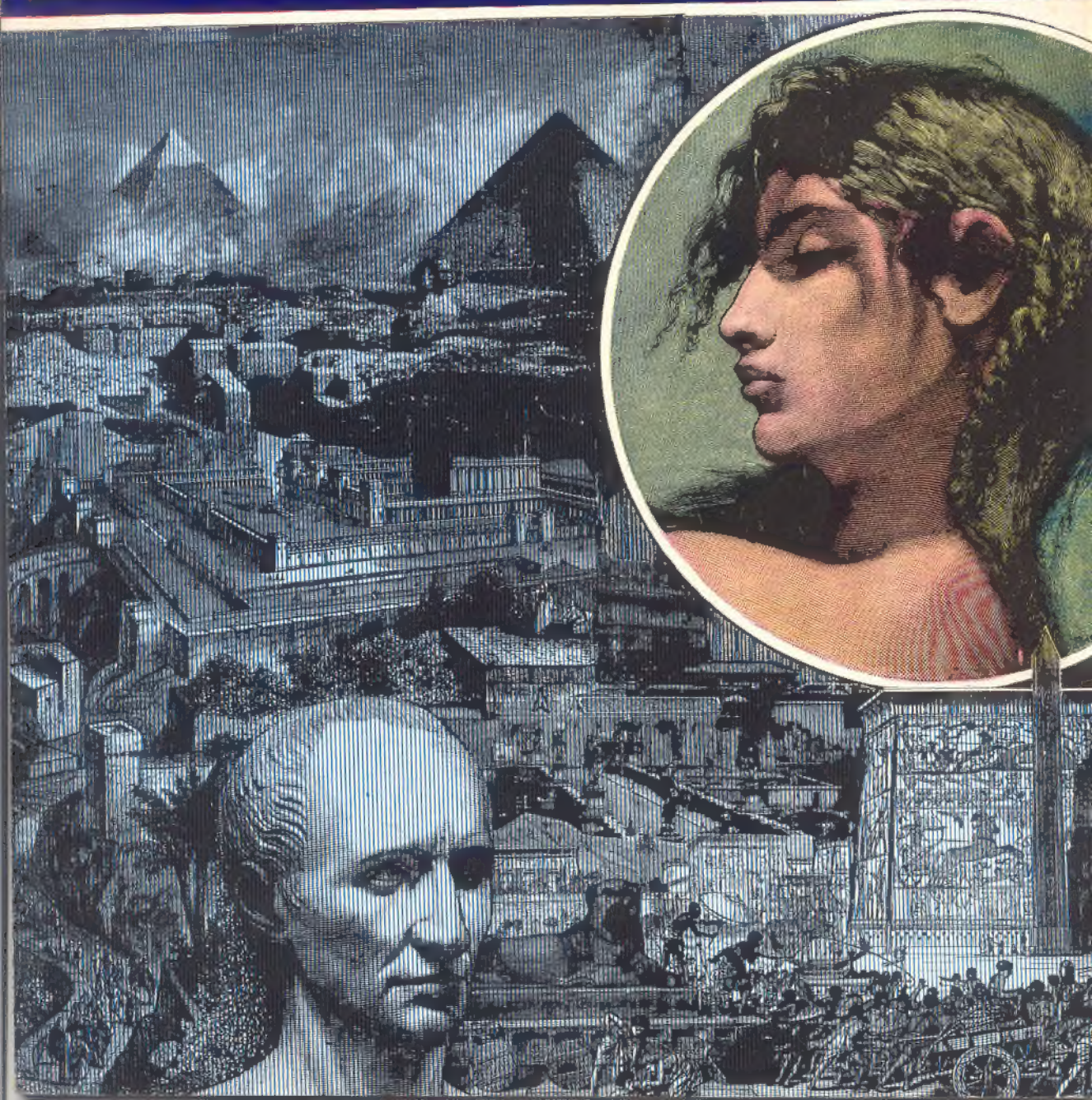
50c

NO. 2

TALES FROM THE



SPHINX





SPHINX COMICS PRESENTS

THESE

BEGINNING IN
A GROTTA
BELOW THE
THANGLA
MOUNT
AINS
OF ANCIENT THIBET
A PRIESTESS AND
YOUNG SHAMAN...

Forces of hGwa



MAKE LOVE IN
GRACEFUL
HARMONY:





SUDDENLY AT THE WINDOW
A STARSHIP APPEARS

BRINGING AN ENVOY
FROM ANDROMEDA—
OUR FRIEND CL...



ONCE A FAMED
PLEIADIAN PILOT

I HAVE BEEN
SENT TO URGE
YOU TO COME IM-
MEDIATELY TO EGYPT

BUT...
WE THOUGHT
ALL WAS WELL



ALL IS NOT WELL, THON.
THE ANDROMEDIAN
EMPRESS M-RETITI
HAS RADIOED...



THAT SHE & IKHNATON
ARE IN SOME GRAVE
DANGER. HER MESSAGE
SAID ONLY FOR US TO
BRING THE HELP OF
AN EARTHLING MAGUS
& PRIESTESS THAT SHE
CAN TRUST.





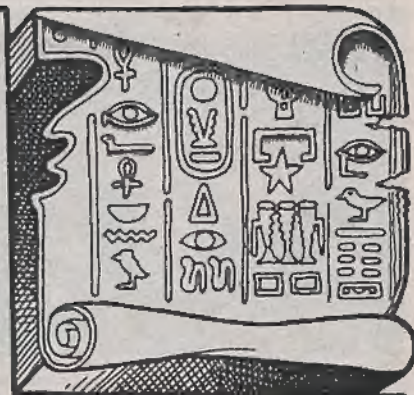
OUR SHIP LANDED IN THE COURTYARD OF A STONE PALACE, WHERE WE WERE RECEIVED BY THE MINISTERS OF HER HIGHNESS ~~AS~~ RETITI, EMPRESS OF THE NILE. A TOWERING BEAUTY OF AWESOME GRANDEUR, HER EYES WELCOMED US WITH A BESEECHING CALMNESS:

"THANK YOU BOTH FOR ANSWERING OUR PLEA FOR HELP... OUR REIGN, OUR VERY LIVES ARE IN DANGER FROM A POWER SO HIDEOUS THAT IT IS DIFFICULT TO EVEN EXPLAIN..."

PERHAPS MY HUSBAND CAN SAY WHY..."



I AM IKHNATON: EMPEROR OF THE
NILE
& ALL
THIS
PLANET



YOU SEE, MY FRIENDS, IN THE YEAR FIVE WE CAME TO EARTH FROM THE STAR ANDROMEDA TO HELP AND TO TEACH. THE KIND PRIESTS, LED BY PHARAOH AMENHOTEP III, HAD ASKED US TO COME, AND GREETED US WITH RESPECT & REVERENCE. AS AMBASSADORS TO HIS COURT WE TAUGHT A SCIENCE OF LOVE & PEACE AS THE HIGHEST WORSHIP OF THE ONE -GOD-ATEN.

WITH THE OLD PHARAOH DYING BREATH MY WIFE AND I WERE NAMED HIS SUCCESSORS. FOR 16 YEARS WE HAVE REIGNED IN HARMONY & UNDERSTANDING ...UNTIL NOW... UNTIL THIS DREADED CURSE WAS UNCOVERED:

WE LISTENED TO HIS DIRE EXPLANATION IN A DAZE.



AN ANCIENT & HIDEOUS POWER HAS FOLLOWED US HERE... A RACE OF DEMONS WHO HAVE NEITHER FLESH NOR FORM - INVISIBLE SPECTRES WHO HAVE MURDERED THE UNSUSPECTING HIEROPHANT OF EGYPT... TO INHABIT HIS BODY AND WORK FOR OUR DESTRUCTION. AND NOW I FEAR THAT SOON HE WILL MOVE AGAINST US...

LUMINING IN THE SHADOWS

A SECRET FORM OVERHEARD



THE HIEROPHANT LISTENED CAREFULLY TO IKHNATEN'S WORDS:



"EVEN OUR MOST POT-
ENT OF MAGICAL POWERS
IS USELESS AGAINST THIS
DEMONIC SCOURGE.

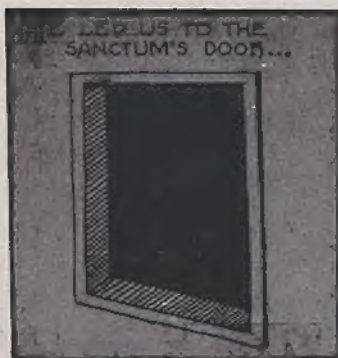
THE BODY OF THE HIERO-
PHANT IS NOW A MALICIOUS
PUPPET TO THE FORCES
OF HGWA - THOSE WHO
SEEK TO OVERTHROW US
AND ESTABLISH A CATAST-
ROPHIC REIGN OF ILLUSION
UPON THE EARTH.

WE HAVE CALLED YOU
HERE TO HELP US IN OUR
PLIGHT... PLEASE FEEL
FREE TO USE OUR INNER
SANCTUM, SACRED TO
THOTH, TO MEDITATE IN.
PERHAPS YOUR MEDITA-
TIONS CAN REVEAL AN
ANSWER TO THIS DISASTEROUS
PROBLEM.

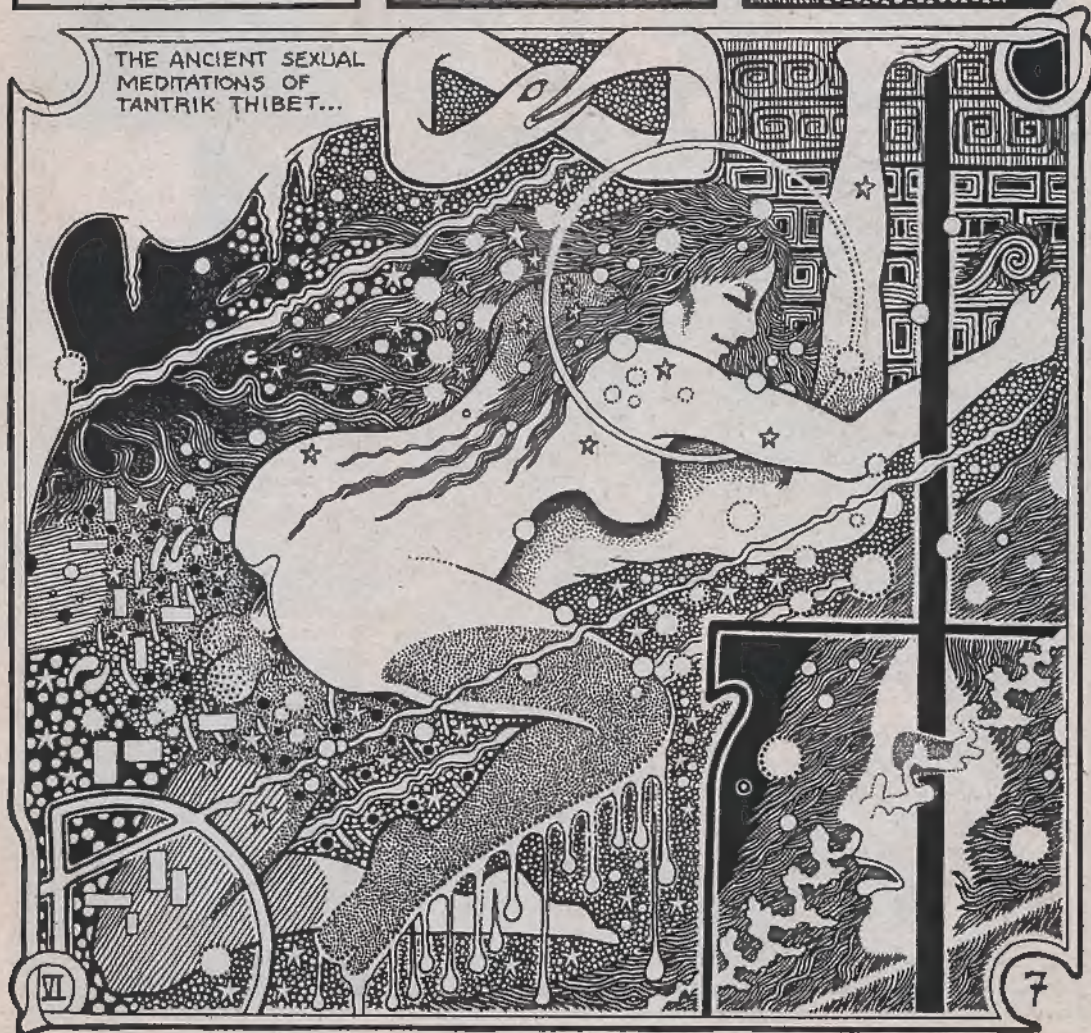
YOU SEE, WE ANDROMED-
IANS CAN NEVER DIE...
INSTEAD, THOUGH, WE CAN
FALL INTO LONG PERIODS
OF SUSPENDED ANIMATION...

SO IT IS NOT MORTAL
DEATH THAT I FEAR...
FOR IF IT WAS POSSIBLE
FOR THEM TO KILL ME,
THEN I WOULD SIMPLY
RETURN IN THE NEXT
INCARNATION TO AVENGE
MYSELF...

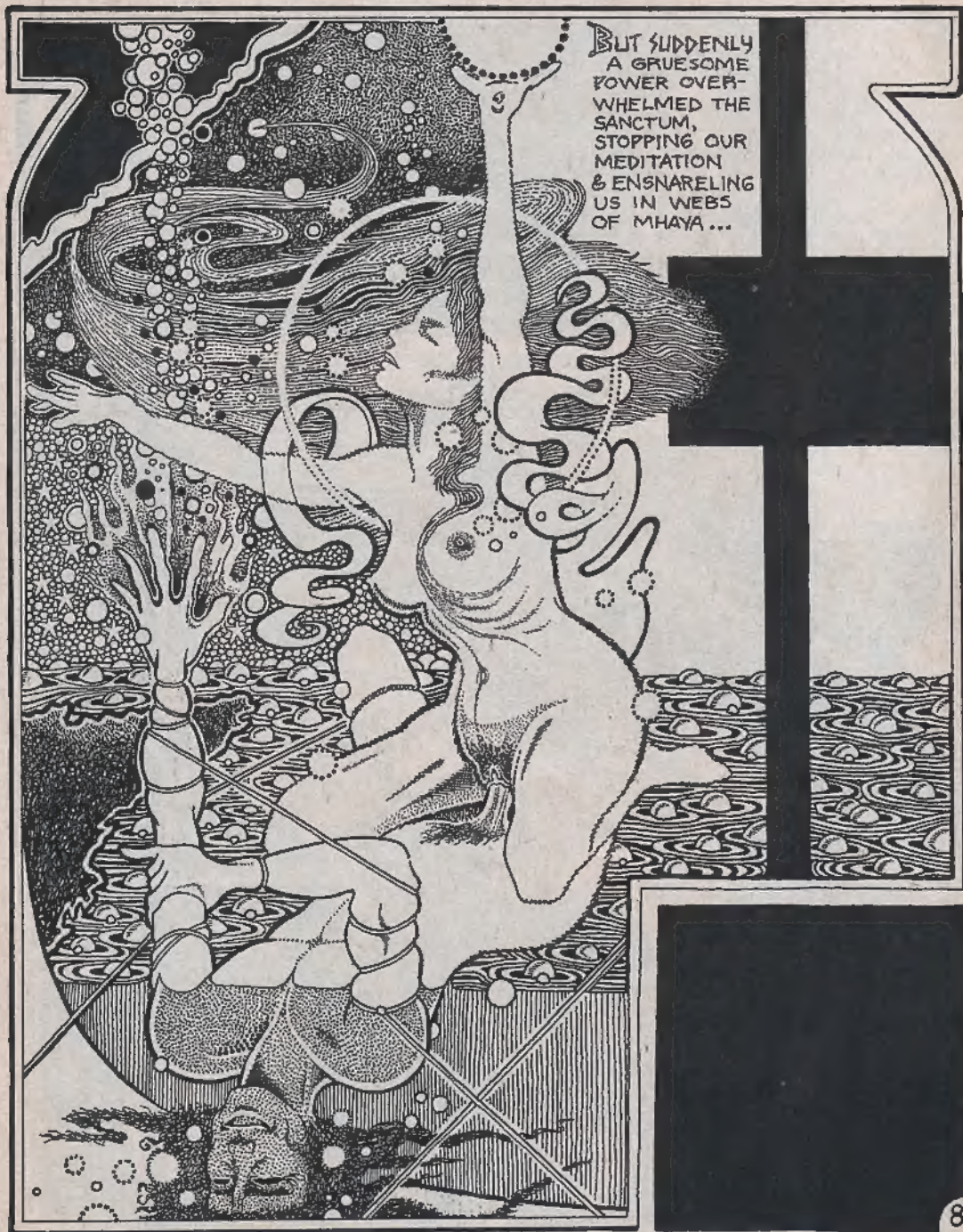
NO... THE FATE THEY HAVE
PLANNED FOR ME IS FAR
WORSE..."



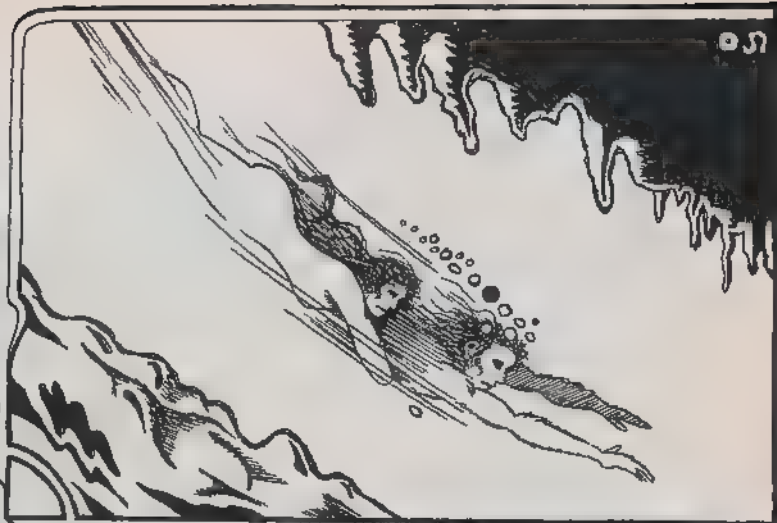
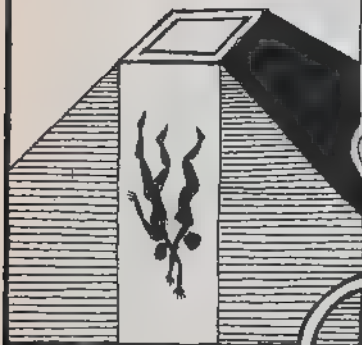
THE ANCIENT SEXUAL
MEDITATIONS OF
TANTRIK THIBET...



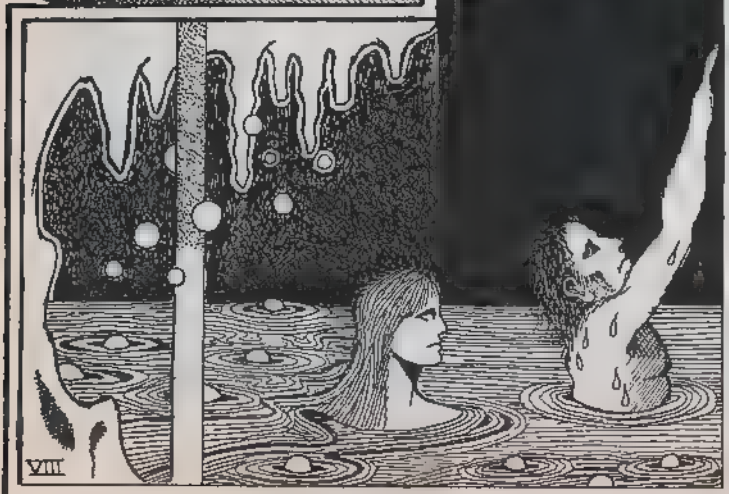
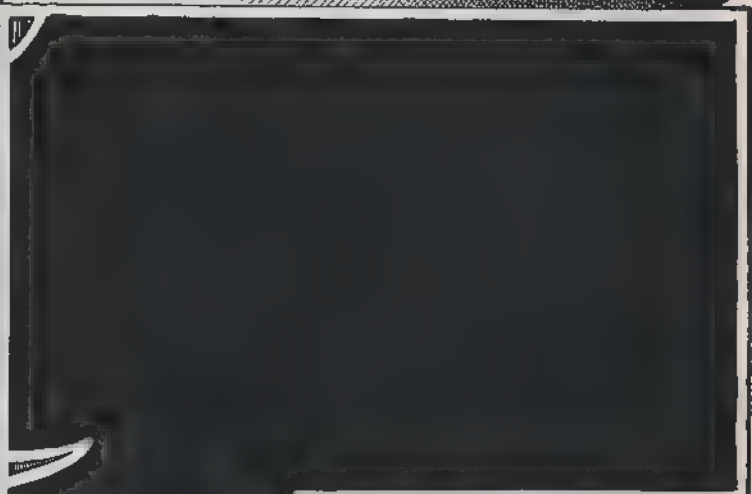
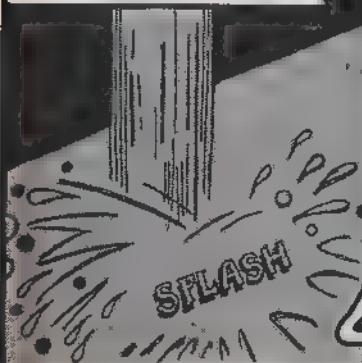
BUT SUDDENLY
A GRUESOME
POWER OVER-
WHELMED THE
SANCTUM,
STOPPING OUR
MEDITATION
& ENSNARELING
US IN WEBS
OF MHAYA...



A TRAP DOOR OPENED
BENEATH OUR FEET...



SENDING US
TUMBLING DOWN-
WARD INTO A SUB-
TERANEAN POND.

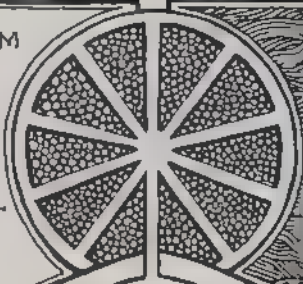


WHO
APPROACHES?



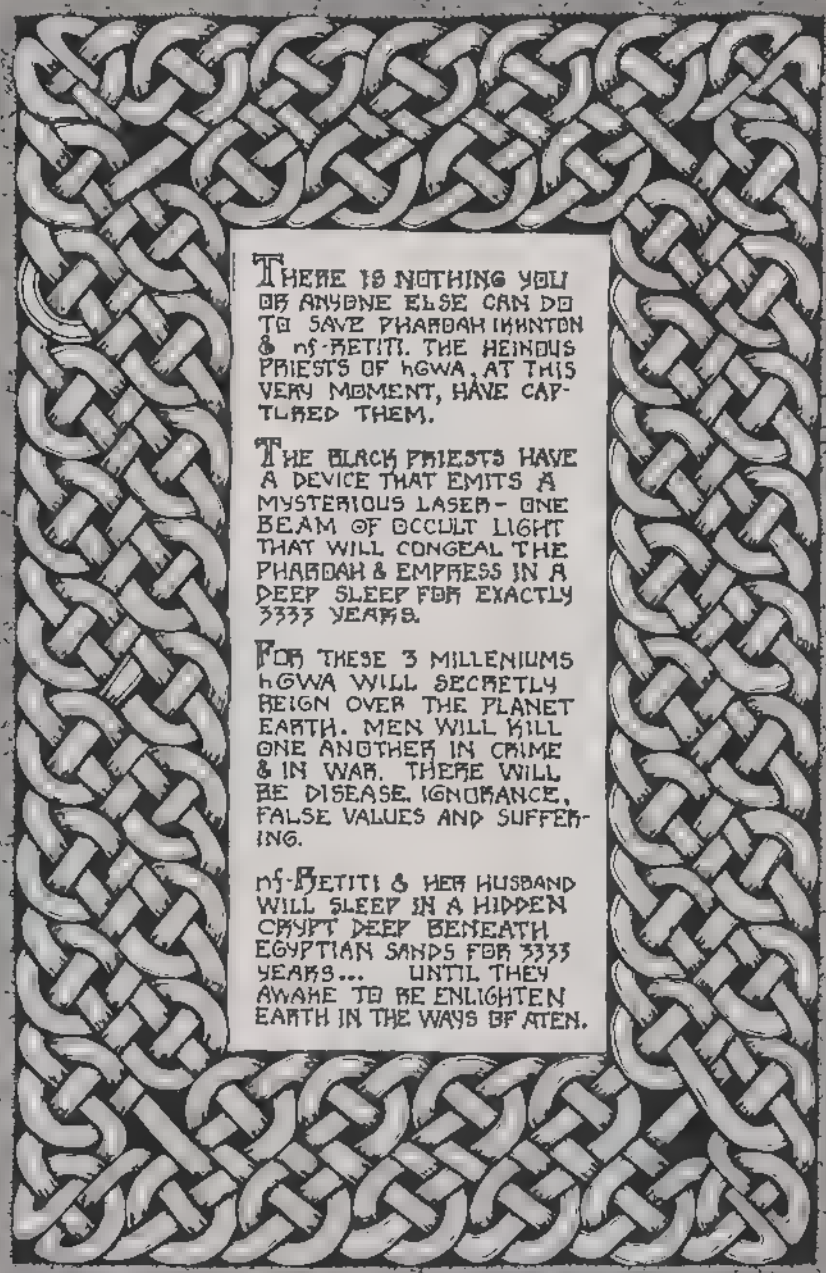
DON'T BE ALARMED... I AM
THOTH... DEMIGOD OF
WISDOM & MYSTICAL KNOW-
LEDGE... I, WHO RELEASED
THE TRAP DOOR THAT SENT
YOU TOPPLING HERE TO MY
ABODE

IN ORDER TO REVEAL
A PROPHECY:



♈ ♉ ♊ ♋ ♌ ♍ ♎ ♏ ♐ ♑ ♒ ♓





THERE IS NOTHING YOU
OR ANYONE ELSE CAN DO
TO SAVE PHARDAHINTON
& ns-FETITI. THE HEINOUS
PRIESTS OF HGWA, AT THIS
VERY MOMENT, HAVE CAP-
TURED THEM.

THE BLACK PRIESTS HAVE
A DEVICE THAT EMITS A
MYSTERIOUS LASER - ONE
BEAM OF OCCULT LIGHT
THAT WILL CONGEAL THE
PHARDAH & EMPRESS IN A
DEEP SLEEP FOR EXACTLY
3333 YEARS.

FOR THESE 3 MILLENIUMS
HGWA WILL SECRETLY
REIGN OVER THE PLANET
EARTH. MEN WILL KILL
ONE ANOTHER IN CRIME
& IN WAR. THERE WILL
BE DISEASE, IGNORANCE,
FALSE VALUES AND SUFFER-
ING.

ns-FETITI & HER HUSBAND
WILL SLEEP IN A HIDDEN
CRYPT DEEP BENEATH
EGYPTIAN SANDS FOR 3333
YEARS... UNTIL THEY
AWAKE TO BE ENLIGHTEN
EARTH IN THE WAYS OF ATEN.



GAZE INTO THIS CRYSTAL ORB AND WATCH MY WORDS COME TRUE!

YOU MUST RETURN TO THIBET NOW! WAIT THERE FOR 100 YEARS TO THIS DAY... THEN RETURN TO EGYPT AND WAIT AT THE SEA-OF-REEDS. A VALIANT PROPHET WILL MEET YOU THERE. YOU ARE TO GUIDE THE FOLLOWERS OF ATEN OUT OF THE WILDERNESS INTO ZION.

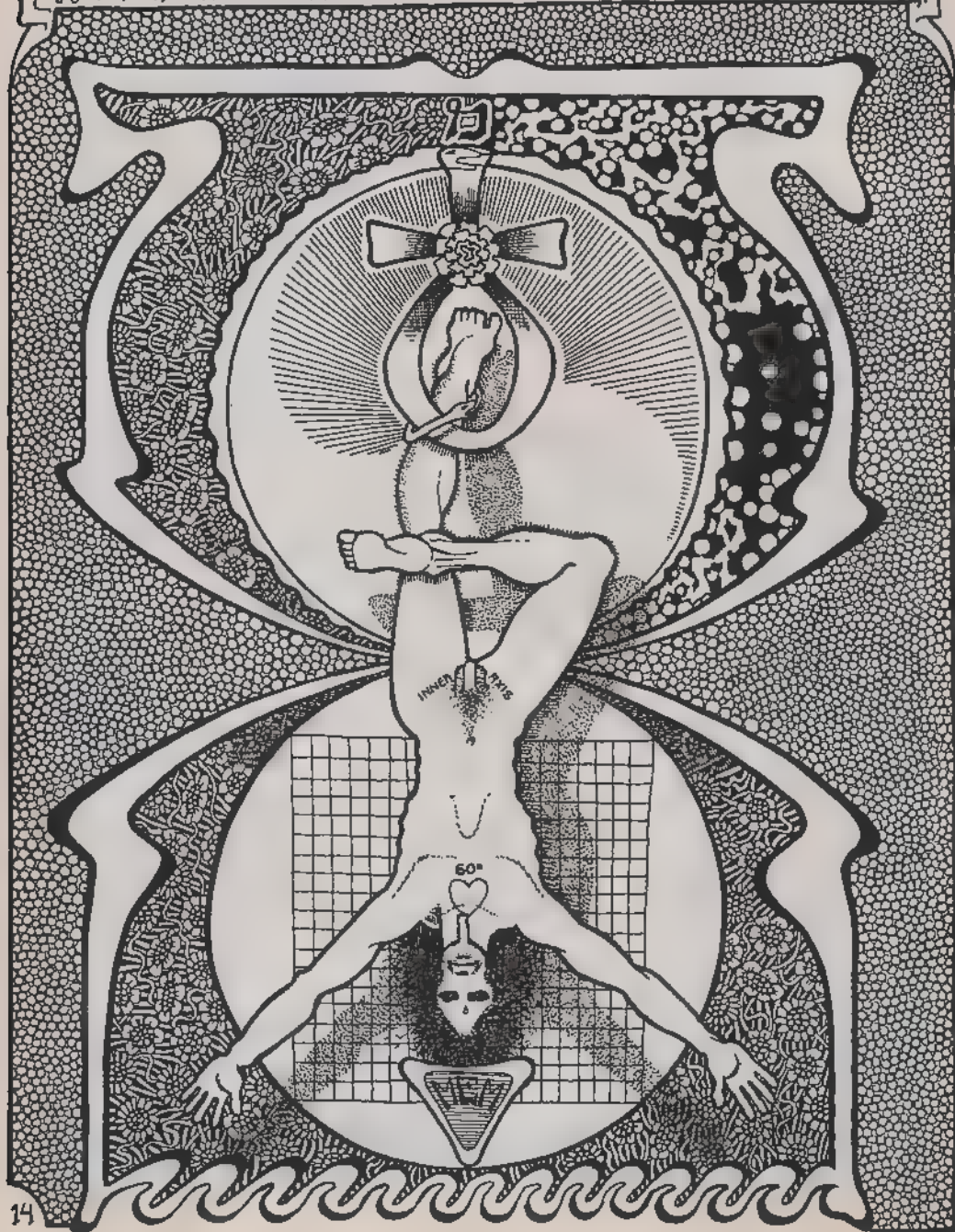
GO NOW!



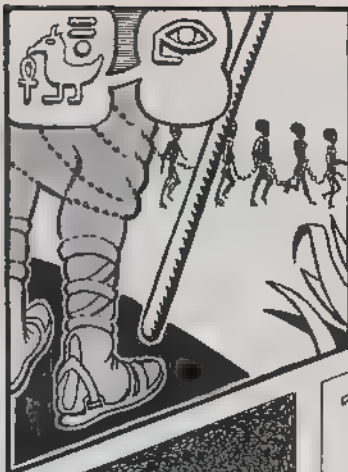
SLEEP! IN THE NAME OF THE BLACK GODS OF NOW...



AND FOR THESE YEARS IHNATON LAY IN HIS DEATH-LIKE COMA...

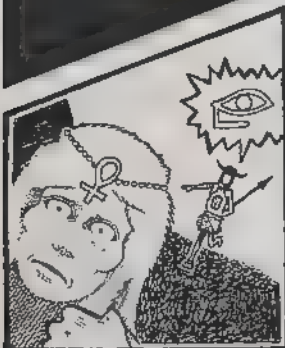


WHILE HIS PEOPLE
WERE CAST INTO SLAVERY
AND SUBJUGATION...

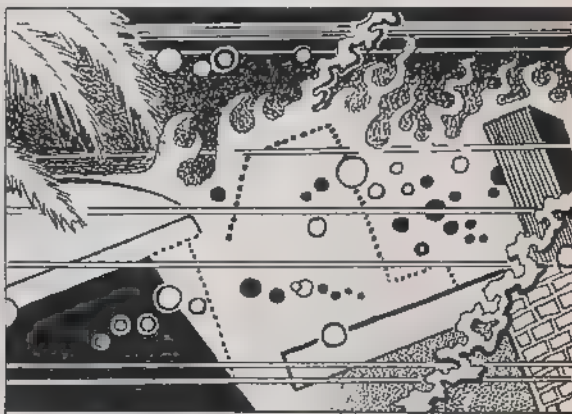
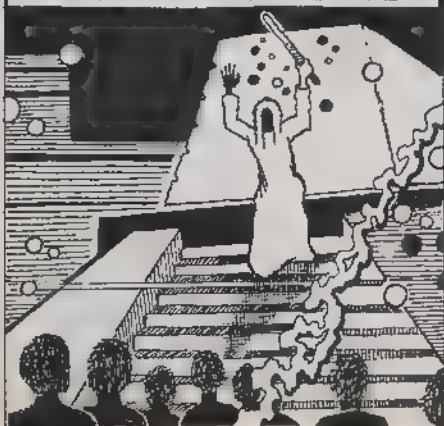


THE BLACK PRIESTS
TURNED THEIR COLD
LASER NEXT ON SMENK-
HARE & MERITATEN (KIN
OF IKHNATEN) AND ALL
OTHER ANDROMEDIANS.
IKHNATEN'S CITY OF
EL-ALMARNNA WAS
BURNED TO THE GROUND
AND ALL TRACES OF THE
PHAROAH OBLIVIERATED.
EACH RECORD OF HIS
REIGN WAS DESTROYED,
EACH MEMENTO SMASHED.

THE CAPITOL WAS RETURN-
ED TO THESES WHILE
YOUNG KING-TUT WAS
PLACED ON THE THRONE
AS A PUPPET TO THE PRIESTS.

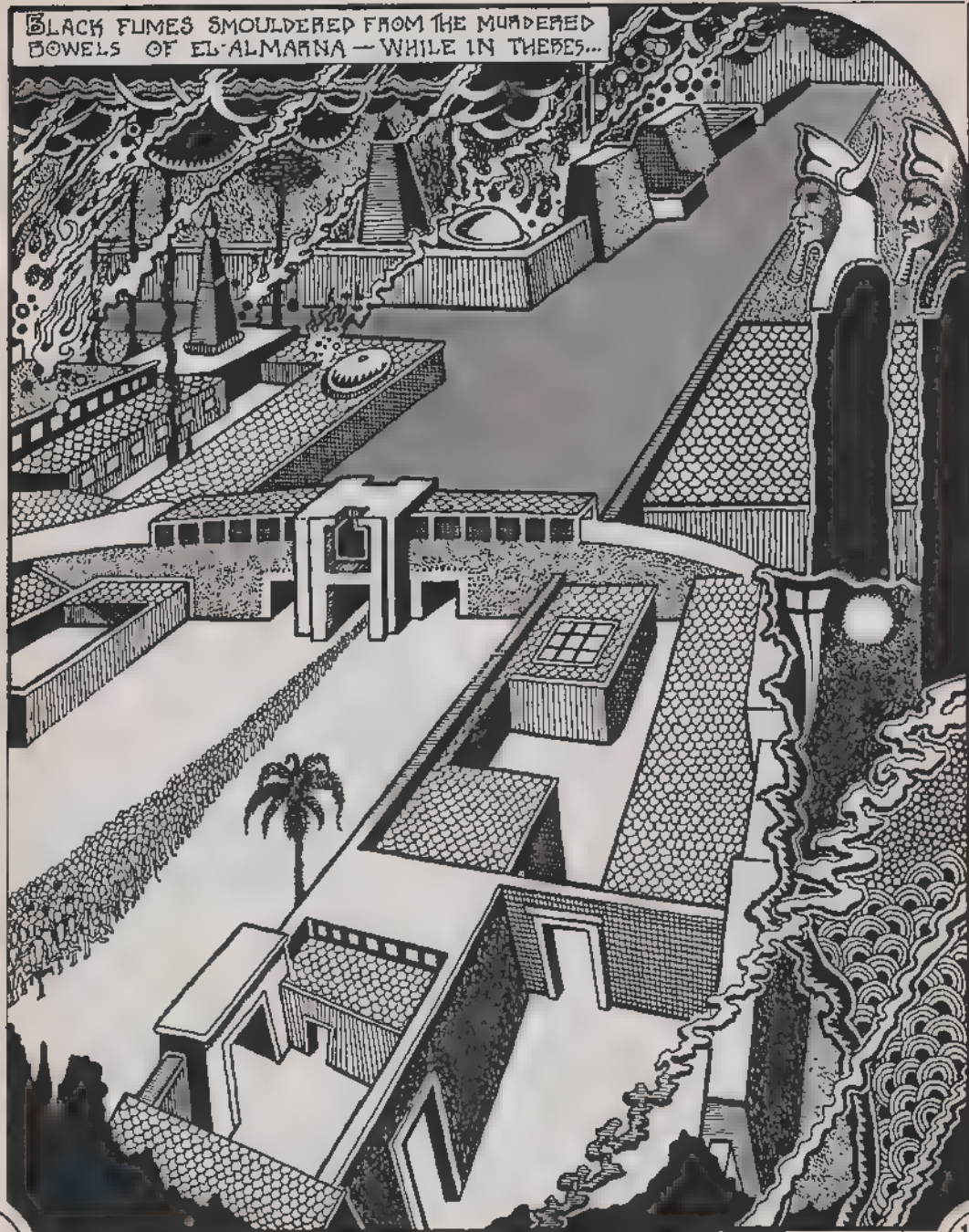


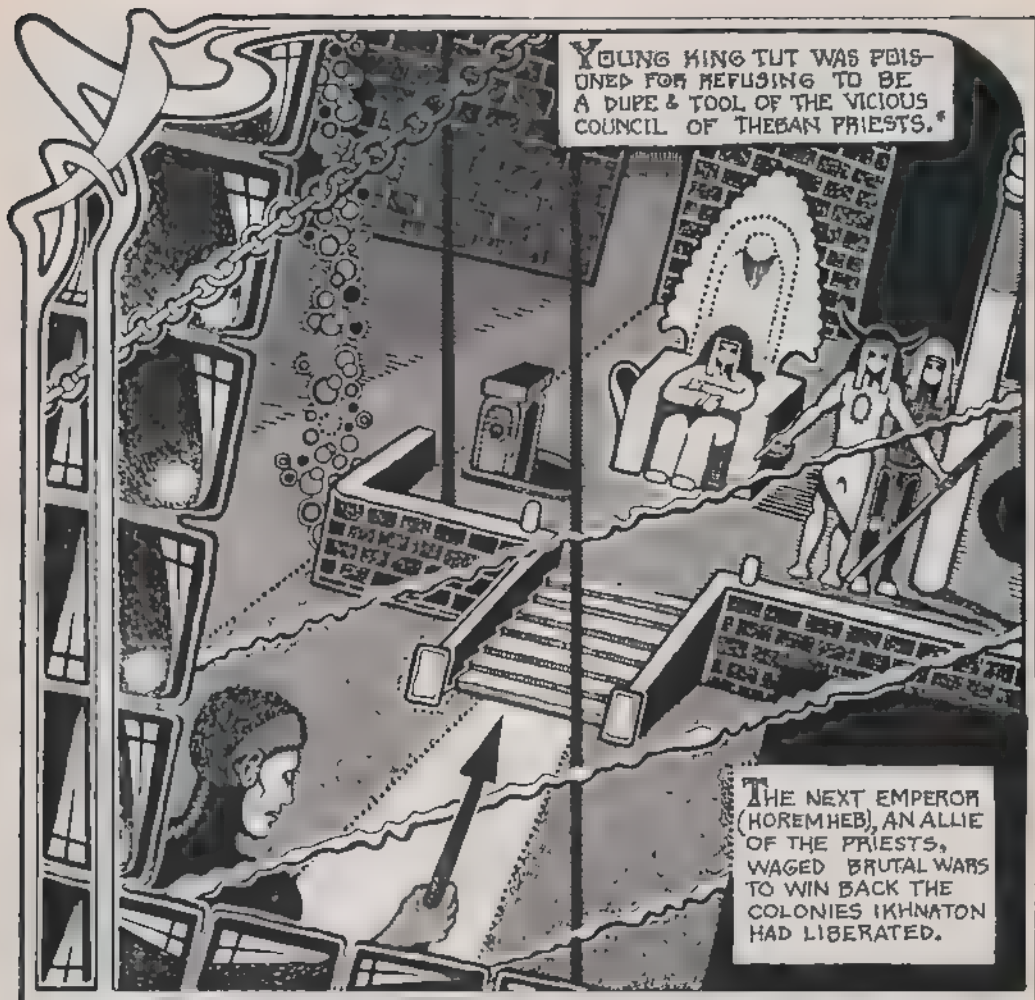
BLACK ARTS RULED THE
NATION - BLACK BISHOPS...



...DEMOLISHED THE TEMPLES OF ATEN
AND REPLACED THEM WITH SHRINES
TO THE OLD PAGAN GODS & IDOLS

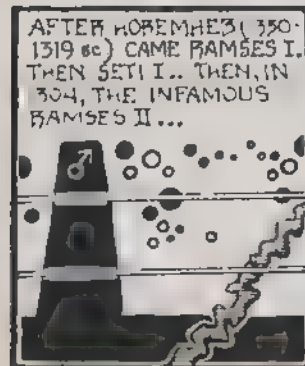
BLACK FUMES SMOULDERED FROM THE MURDERED
BOWELS OF EL-ALMAINA — WHILE IN THERE...



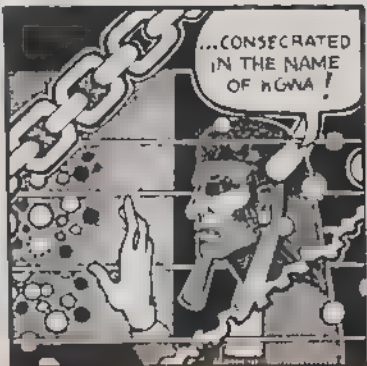


YOUNG KING TUT WAS POISONED FOR REFUSING TO BE A DUPE & TOOL OF THE VICIOUS COUNCIL OF THEBAN PRIESTS.

THE NEXT EMPEROR (HOREMHEB), AN ALLIE OF THE PRIESTS, WAGED BRUTAL WARS TO WIN BACK THE COLONIES IKHNATON HAD LIBERATED.



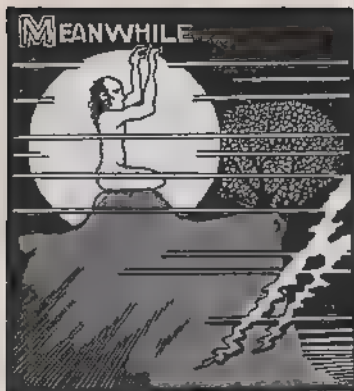
AFTER HOREMHEB (350-1319 BC) CAME RAMSES I. THEN SETI I. THEN, IN 304, THE INFAMOUS RAMSES II...



...CONSECRATED IN THE NAME OF AHWAT!

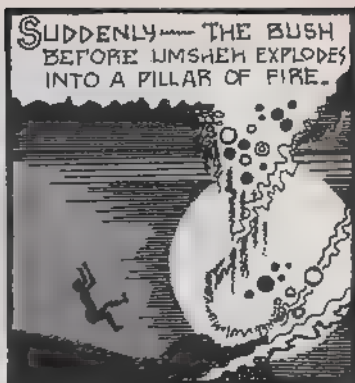


MEANWHILE



IN THE MIDIN WILD-
ERNNESS, A SHAMAN
MEDITATES ABOVE A
TORRID DESERT. HE IS
UMSHEH, ONCE A
POWERFUL EGYPTIAN
PRIEST WHO FLED THE
CORRUPT THEBAN
COURT... AND NOW, AT
80 LIVES IN A SECLUDED
MIDIN OASIS AS A
STRONG & MAGNETIC
DEVOTEE OF ATEN,
THE ONE TRUE GOD.

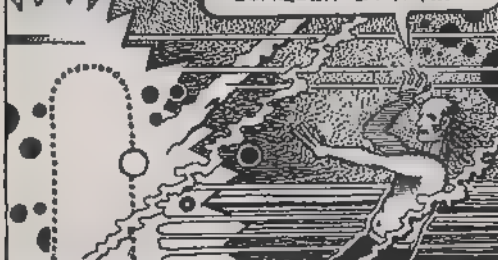
SUDDENLY... THE BUSH
BEFORE UMSHEH EXPLODES
INTO A PILLAR OF FIRE..



HARKEN THESE WORDS, UMSHEH:
THE WORDS OF ATEN - TELLING
YOU THAT MY PEOPLE ARE
IMPRISONED BY THE CHAINS
OF HGWAS PHAROAH. **YOU**
ARE TO LIBERATE THEM.
YOU ARE TO BE MY
AGENT OF...

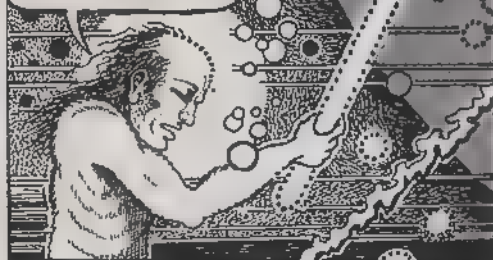
BUT MY
LORD - I'M

JUST A POOR
HERMIT & RECLUSE...
I CAN'T SINGLEHANDEDLY
CONQUER EGYPT...OR...

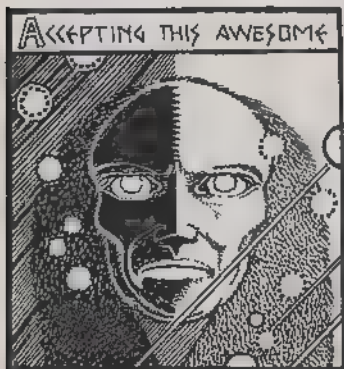


NO LAME EXCUSES! WITH
MY LIGHT PROTECTING YOU,
YOU CANNOT FAIL - AND AS
A SYMBOL OF THIS PROT-
ECTION, TAKE THIS MAGIC
STAFF... GO NOW AND
DO WHAT MUST BE DONE

...YES...
MY LORD.



ACCEPTING THIS AWESOME



RESPONSIBILITY, UMSHEH

& HIS WIFE ZPDRAH (THE
WATER-BEARER) LEFT
FOR THE EGYPTIAN REALM

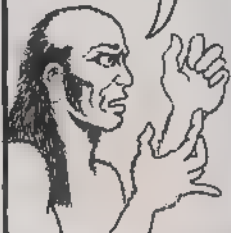


TO ADDRESS THE
PEOPLE OF ATEN:



SPEAKING SLOWLY &
CLEARLY HE PREVAILED
UPON THE WORKERS
IN THE FIELDS TO
STAY LOYAL TO ATEN...

AND TO PRAY
TO HIM FOR
DELIVERANCE
FROM NOWA!



MY OWN FAMILY
HAS LIVED HERE
430 YEARS. AT
FIRST AS GUESTS
... BUT NOW
AS SLAVES!

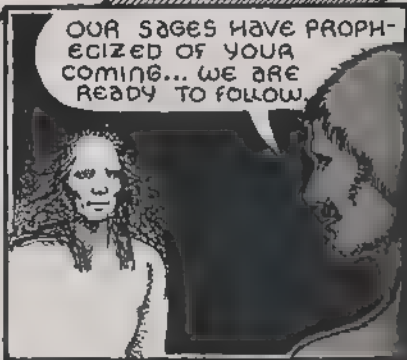


THE WRATH OF THE
PEOPLE ROARED:

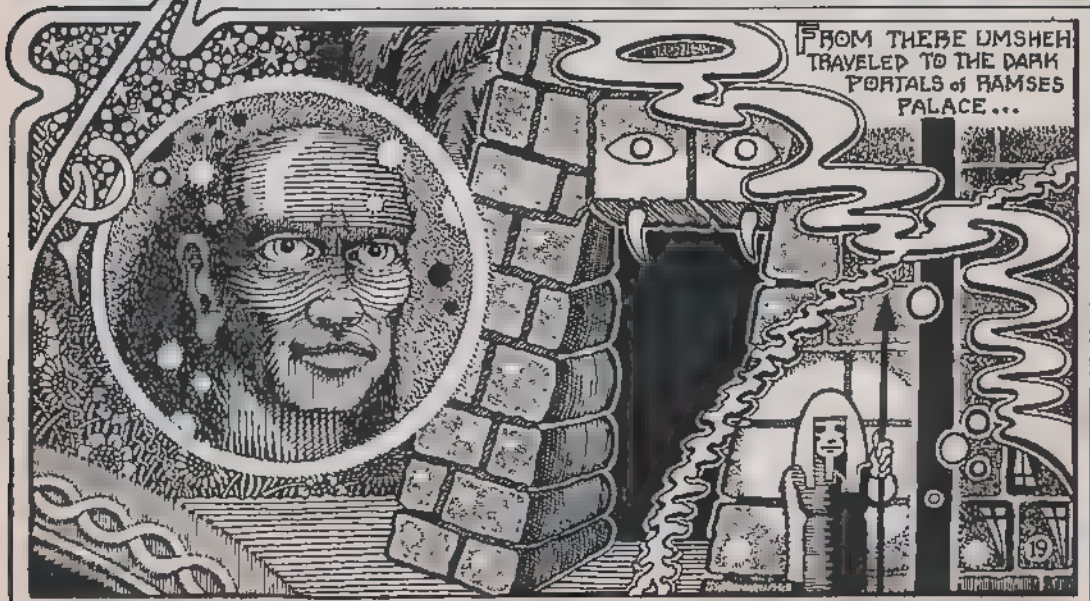
BE
SLAVES NO LONGER!
FOLLOW ME OUT OF
EGYPT-FOR-EVER!



OUR SAGES HAVE PROPH-
ECIZED OF YOUR
COMING... WE ARE
READY TO FOLLOW.



FROM THERE UMSHER
TRAVELED TO THE DARK
PORTALS OF RAMSES
PALACE...



ARRIVING WITHIN TO FACE



THE PHAROAH AND HIS LURID HIEROPHANT... THE CORRIDORS OF INLAID GOLD & IVORY REEKED A VIRULENT INCENSE... SOON THESE SAME HALLS WERE FILLED WITH THE CLAMOUR OF PALACE GUARDS DRAWING SWORDS AGAINST THE STRANGE INTRUDER... BUT A POTENT MAGIC FREEZES HIS ASSAILANTS TO STONE, AS HE SHOUTS:

HEAR ME OUT!

WHAT ALIEN MAGIC DO YOU BRING MY EARS...?



CASTING DOWN HIS ROD, UMSHEH'S STAFF TRANSFORMS INTO A SERPANT...

THIS SERPANT! THE SCEPTRE OF THE ONE TRUE GOD!



IN REFLEX, THE DARK HIEROPHANT CASTS DOWN HIS OWN MAGIC STAFF...

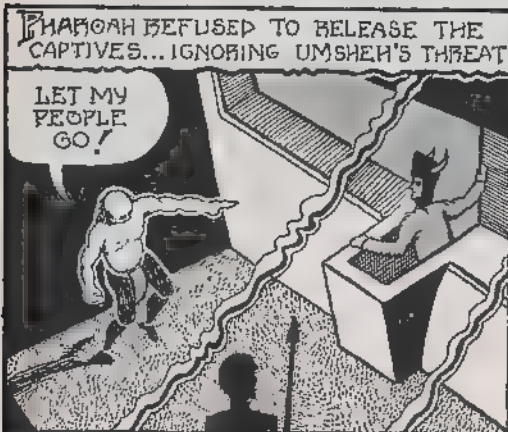
TURNING INTO ANOTHER SERPANT



THAT UMSHEH'S SERPANT SOON DEVOURER.



YOUR POWERS ARE IMPOTENT
AGAINST ATEN'S WILL... FREE
THE SLAVES OR BEAR THE
CURSES OF MY ANGRY GOD !



PHAROAH REFUSED TO RELEASE THE
CAPTIVES... IGNORING UMSHEN'S THREAT

LET MY
PEOPLE
GO !

...A THREAT THAT SOON BEFELL
THE NILE ITSELF... A RIVER THAT
RAN BLOOD, KILLING THE FISH &
THE FOWL.. MASSES OF FROGS
COVERED THE FIELDS, POISONING
THE CATTLE. THEN... A HURRICANE
OF FIRE & LOCUST, BLACKENING
THE SKY FOR THREE DAYS AND
THREE NIGHTS, PLAGUEING THE
BREATH OF ALL EGYPT.

YET... IT WAS THE SEVENTH CURSE
THAT CRUSHED RAMSE'S STEEL
HEART : ALL THE FIRST-BORN SONS,
INCLUDING RAMSE'S OWN INHERITOR,
FELL SLAIN BY SOME UNSEEN HAND.



...YOUR OBSTINACY
IS DESTROYING ALL
EGYPT, LET MY...



TAKE
YOUR
DAMNED
FANATICS
& LEAVE
THIS LAND

THUS THE PEOPLE FLED :



21

Fleeing into the desert wilderness, the pursuing troops of Pharaoh Ramses II were stopped at The Sea of Reeds by a strange magic that protected The People of Aten... the divine white magic bestowed upon Umsheteh... shielding those 600,000 citizens loyal to the Sleeping Ikhnaton.

*It was The Year of Exodus...
The Year of Deliverance
1261 BC.*



*And as in Thoth's Prophecy
The Thutelan magus & Priestess
were there waiting...*



*waiting to guide the
People of Aten to a new
homeland in Ca-naan.*

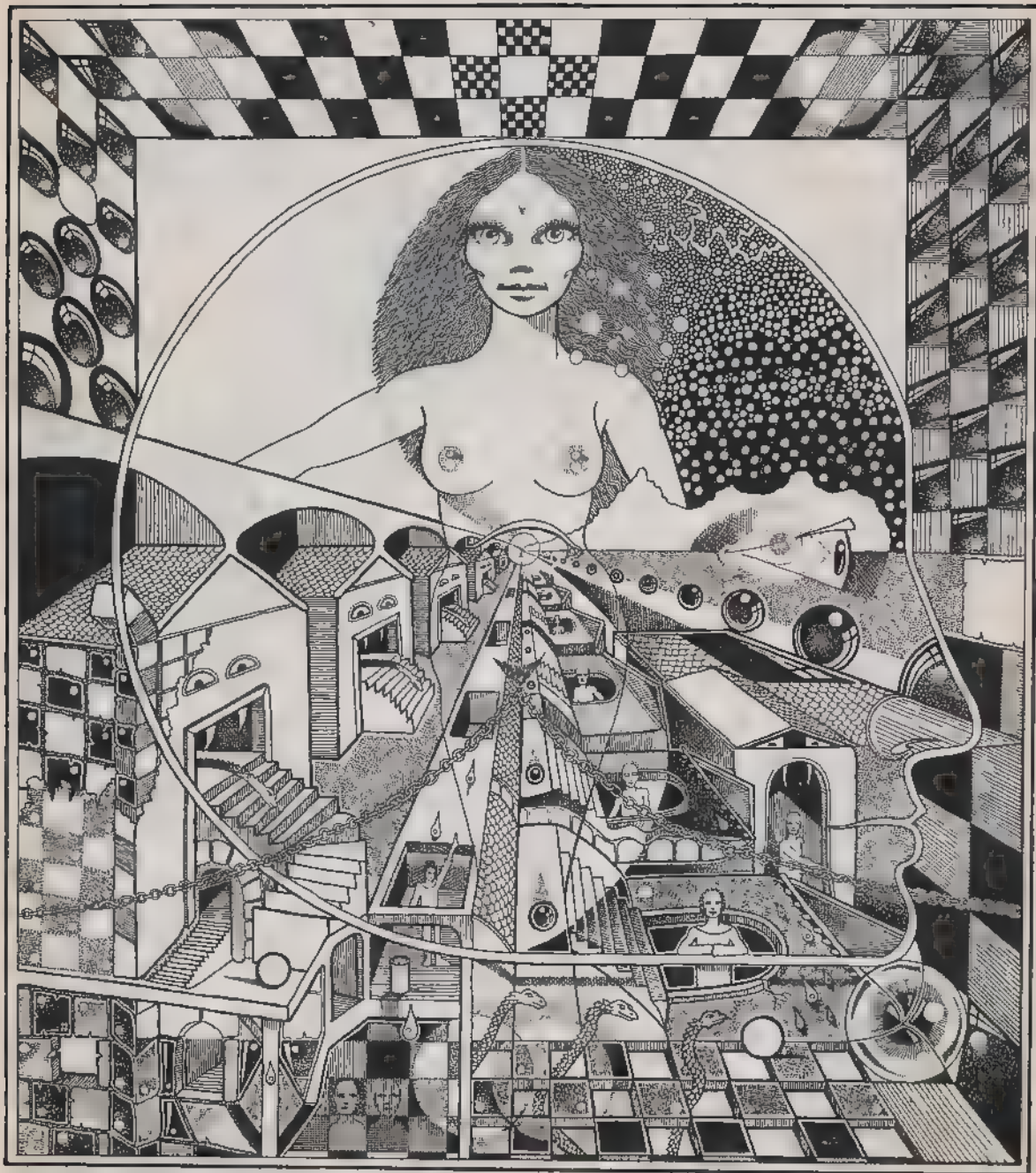
The End

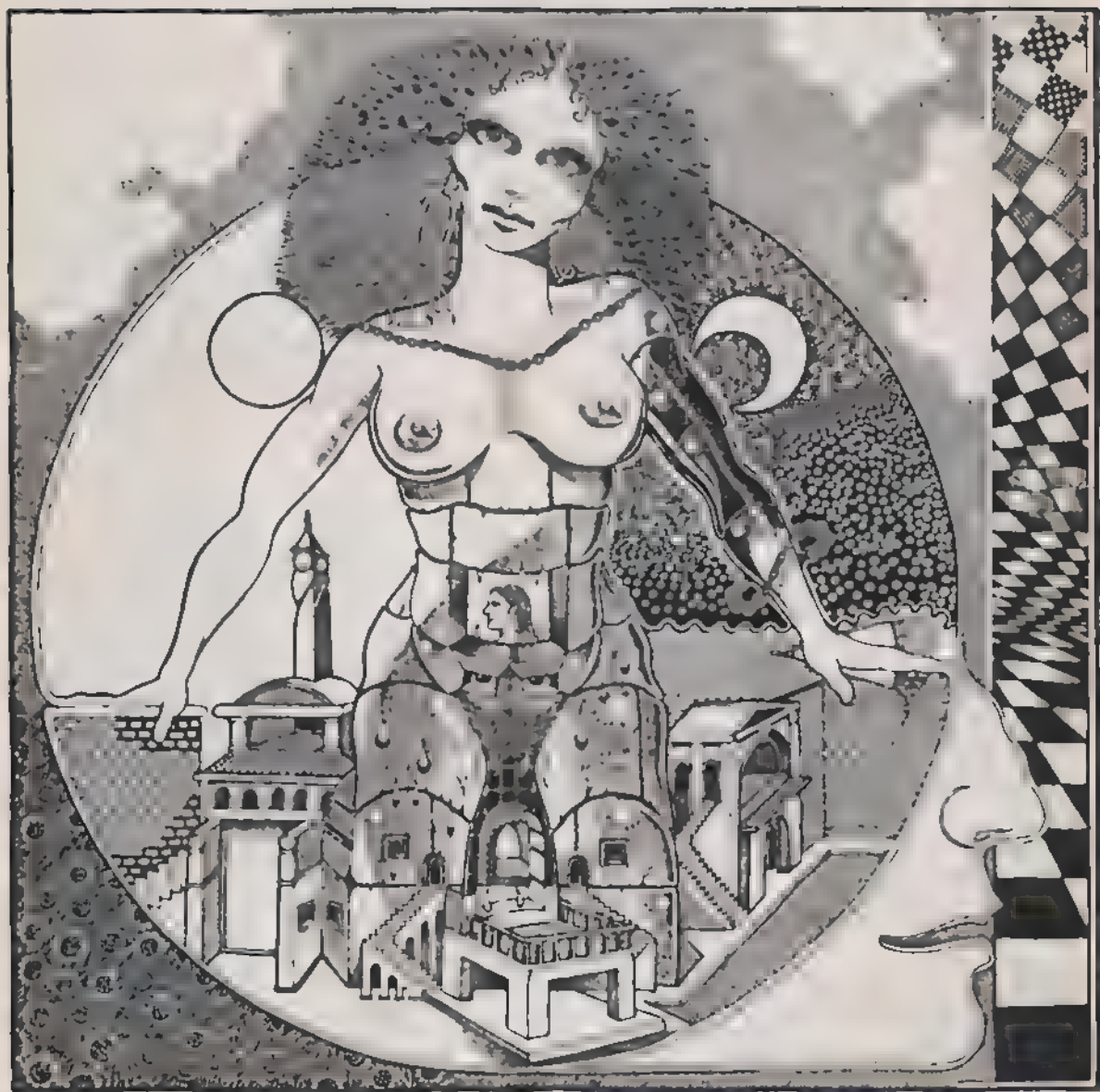


Sight DRAWINGS



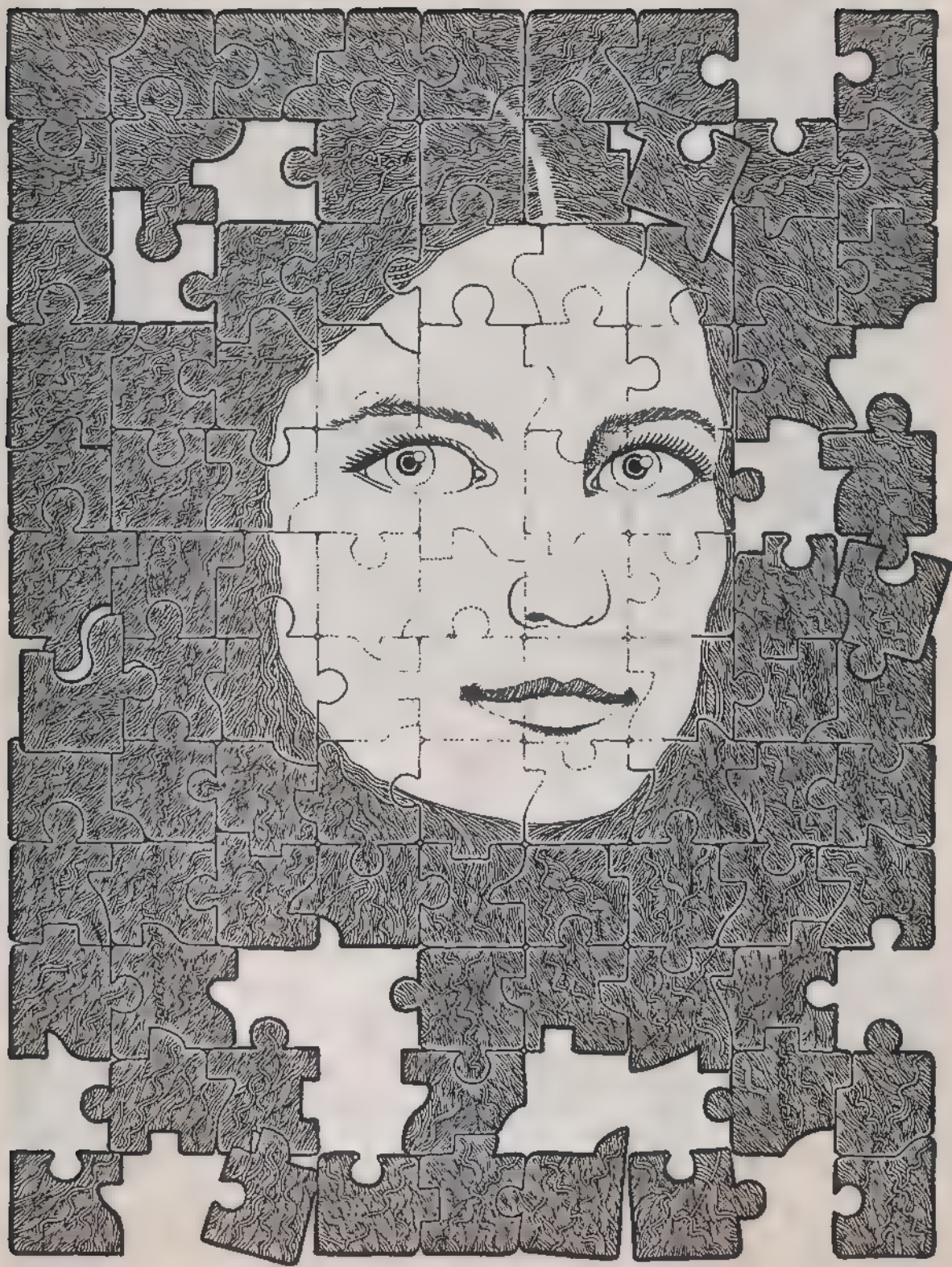


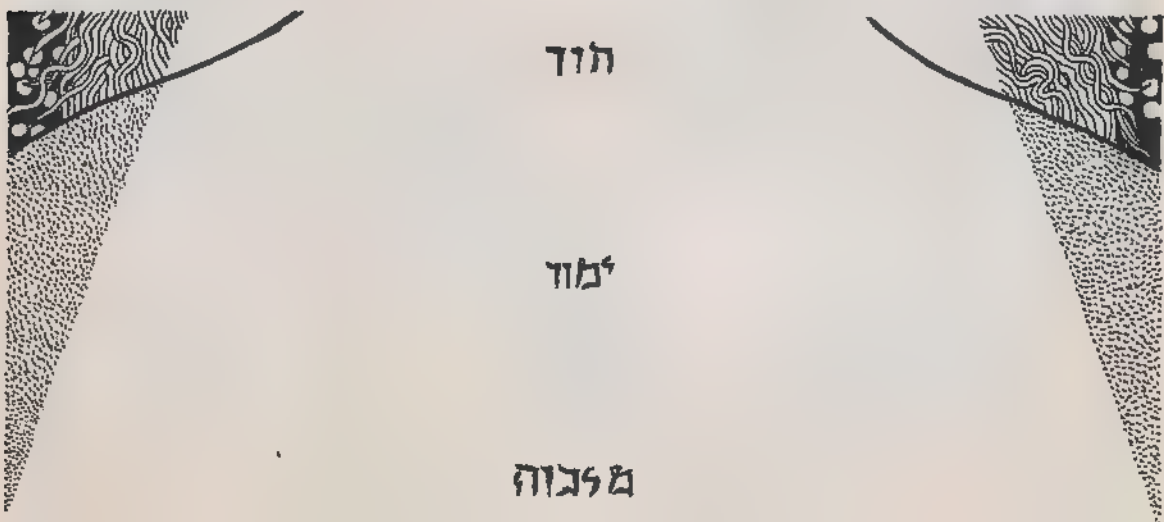
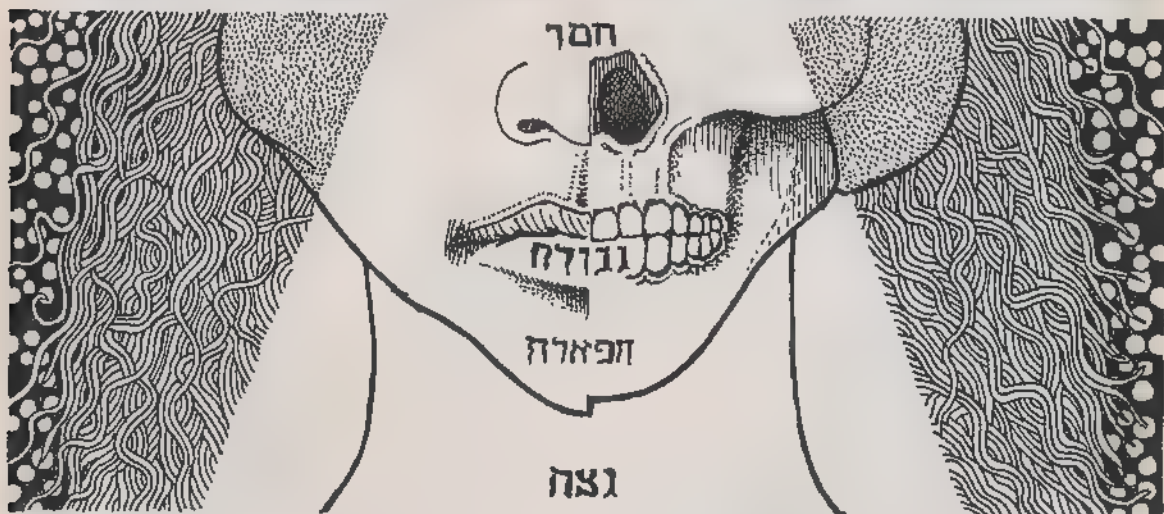




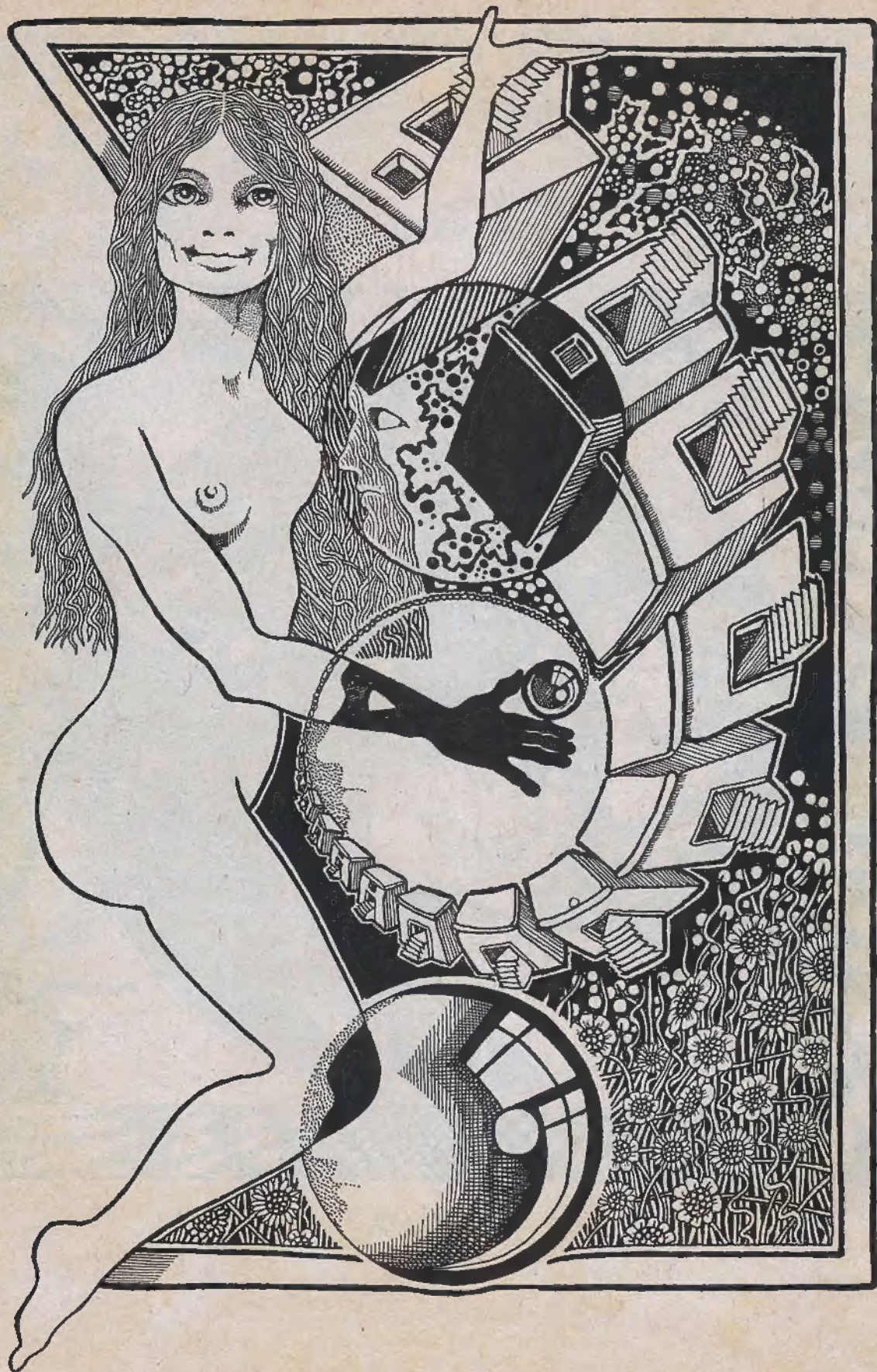












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PLEASE DOUBLE CHECK!
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